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November 9, 2000

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U.S. Food & Drug Administration  
Dockets Management Branch  
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20785

Re: Docket Number 98P-0151/CP1  
Downed Animals

Dear Sir/Madam:

Your consideration and attention is urgently needed to put a stop to the Downed Animal Trade! Downed animals – animals that are too sick to even stand, are commonly left to suffer for hours or days without receiving food, water, or veterinary care, and in many instances, they die of neglect. They are dragged to slaughter with chains or pushed with tractors and forklifts – inhumane methods that cause further injuries. Downed animals who survive handling and transportation are typically *slaughtered for human consumption*. In addition to causing intolerable animal suffering, the slaughter and marketing of downed animals *pose a risk to human health*.

There is continued concern that the marketing and slaughter of downed animals causes intense animal suffering and *poses an unnecessary health risk*. The USDA recently reviewed and revised its policy regarding the purchase of ground beef for the various school lunch, food, and nutrition programs and has taken major steps in the direction of ending the downed animal trade.

Now is the time to grant the Farm Sanctuary's petition (98P-0151/CP1) to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals.

Your attention and action to this request will be very much appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

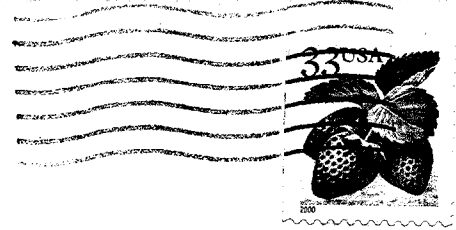
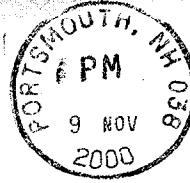
  
Paula Lepore

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